

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION

KEVIN EUGENE WILLINGHAM,
Plaintiff,
vs.
DIRECTOR OF ALABAMA STATE
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, et al.,
Defendants.

CIV. ACT. NO. 1:20-cv-56-TFM-N

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

On June 26, 2020, the Magistrate Judge entered a report and recommendation which recommends this action be dismissed without prejudice for failure to prosecute and to comply with the court’s orders. See Doc. 9. No objections were filed.

Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b) authorizes dismissal of a complaint for failure to prosecute or failure to comply with a court order or the federal rules. Gratton v. Great Am. Commc’ns, 178 F.3d 1373, 1374 (11th Cir. 1999). Further, such a dismissal may be done on motion of the defendant or sua sponte as an inherent power of the court. Betty K Agencies, Ltd. v. M/V Monada, 432 F.3d 1333, 1337 (11th Cir. 2005). “[D]ismissal upon disregard of an order, especially where the litigant has been forewarned, generally is not an abuse of discretion.” Vil v. Perimeter Mortg. Funding Corp., 715 F. App’x 912, 915 (quoting Moon v. Newsome, 863 F.2d 835, 837 (11th Cir. 1989)). “[E]ven a non-lawyer should realize the peril to [his] case, when [he] . . . ignores numerous notices” and fails to comply with court orders. Anthony v. Marion Cty. Gen. Hosp., 617 F.2d 1164, 1169 (5th Cir. 1980); see also Moon, 863 F.2d at 837 (As a general rule, where a litigant has been forewarned, dismissal for failure to obey a court order is not an abuse of discretion.). Therefore, the Court finds it appropriate to exercise its “inherent power” to “dismiss [Plaintiff’s claims] sua sponte for

lack of prosecution.” *Link v. Wabash R.R. Co.*, 370 U.S. 626, 630, 82 S. Ct. 1386, 8 L. Ed. 2d 734 (1962); *see also Betty K Agencies, Ltd.*, 432 F.3d at 1337 (describing the judicial power to dismiss *sua sponte* for failure to comply with court orders).

Since the filing of his complaint on December 16, 2019, there has been no additional action by the Plaintiff. Doc. 1. The case was transferred from the United States District Court for the Middle District of Alabama on February 3, 2020. *See* Docs. 3, 4, 5. Despite several orders for him to complete the Court’s § 1983 complaint form and to pay the filing fee or a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis*, Plaintiff failed to respond. *See* Docs. 6, 7, 8.

Accordingly, after due and proper consideration of all portions of this file deemed relevant to the issues raised, and there having been no objections filed, the Report and Recommendation of the Magistrate Judge is **ADOPTED** and this action is **DISMISSED without prejudice** for failure to prosecute and obey the Court’s orders.

**DONE and ORDERED** this 21st day of July, 2020.

/s/Terry F. Moorer  
TERRY F. MOORER  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE